

LITTLE MELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
at LITTLE MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE,
LITTLE MELTON on TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2016 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT

John Heaser (Chair), Tony Berry, Peter Graves and John Symonds.

In addition County Councillor Judith Virgo and District Councillor Christopher Kemp were also present as was District Councillor (Northern River Valleys Neighbourhood Chair) David Bills.

APOLOGY

Apologies for absence were received from Russell Cole, District Councillor Garry Wheatley and PCSO Darrin Sore.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Peter Graves declared an interest in item 5.1.1. on the agenda and, John Symonds and Tony Berry declared an interest in item 5.1.2.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 October 2016 were - on a proposal by John Symonds, which was seconded by Tony Berry - accepted as a true record of the business conducted and therefore a copy was signed and dated by the Chair for retention in the Parish Council records.

PUBLIC, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR PARTICIPATION

County Councillor Judith Virgo spoke first and gave a resume of the meeting that she had attended, at County Hall, for most of the day.

District Councillor Christopher Kemp then spoke on the approval just granted to the UEAs proposal for the sports pitches (especially rugby) and buildings, which had recently been submitted to SNC.

DC Christopher Kemp also gave an updated report on the following:-

- SNC Boundary Review – draft recommendations which would – if accepted – see Little Melton join with Bawburgh and Hethersett in a new ward with 3 District Councillors. The Chair, John Heaser, confirmed that LMPC had just submitted its views on this proposal.
- Parliamentary Boundaries Review (Cringleford and Little Melton proposed for Norwich South).
- Precept Consultation Norfolk 2017/2018 LG Finance Settlement (Referendum Principles)
DC Christopher Kemp said that the precept principle of requiring a referendum – should the bid, from LMPC, exceed 2% - would not apply on the basis of precept or population. The Chair, John Heaser, added that it was not anticipated that the bid, from LMPC, for 2017/2018 would increase the precept beyond 2%.

Turning to the funding for replacing/adding to the young children's play equipment District Councillor, David Bills, said that he hoped to be able to offer some good financial assistance, from 2016/2017 District Council funding pots towards such provision.

Councillor Bills added that the SNC consideration for grant aid for the financial year 2017/2018 would be administered via a new system as it was envisaged that the present five areas, within SNC, would cease to exist and be replaced by just one budget to assist parish councils.

The Chair, John Heaser, confirmed that it was anticipated that approximately £70,000 would be available – from Section 106 monies to fund this provision.

John Heaser referring to the potential acquisition or leasing of an extra area of land (to the west of the tennis court) mentioned that any monies needed for this and the replacement play equipment might, initially, be in the form of a loan – depending on timing.

Concluding District Councillor, David Bills, said he would now – with some understanding of what was being proposed - consult with his community group at SNC and report back to the Parish Council in due course.

Following this business County Councillor Judith Virgo and District Councillors Christopher Kemp and David Bills were warmly thanked for their attendance and input to the proceedings and left the meeting at 8.25 pm.

Prior to leaving Judith Virgo gave her apology for her absence at the next Parish Council meeting, which is now to be held on Tuesday 6 December.

HIGHWAYS

REPORTING OF MAINTENANCE

John Symonds reported that he had recently spent some time trying to remove the white paint that had been spilt near the crossroads. He had been partly successful but would now try again, with another paint “remover”, so that a clean and paint-less area along the kerb and edge of the road resulted. The Parish Council formally thanked John Symonds, for all his voluntary hard work and expressed appreciation of any further work that was necessary to totally removed all the paint.

TRAFFIC CALMING/ADAPTATION OF VAS TO REGISTER INFORMATION

Nothing further was reported under this item.

TRAFFIC CALMING ISSUES.

Nothing further was reported under this item.

NCC (MILL ROAD AND RINGWOOD CLOSE) AMENDMENT ORDER (20 MPH).

Nothing further was reported under this item.

CLERK’S CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk of the Council’s schedule of correspondence as at 9 November and sent to all Parish Councillors, was confirmed as were a few late additions.

DISTRICT, COUNTY AND REGIONAL DOCUMENTS

The following letters/documents/emails were confirmed:-

- SNC Boundary review - LG Boundary Commission Review of District Ward Boundaries.
- Parliamentary Boundaries Review.
- Precept Consultation Norfolk 2017/2018 LG Finance Settlement (Referendum Principles).
- Development of SNC Community Assets Strategy.

FINANCIAL

INVOICES

On a proposal by Peter Graves, which was seconded by John Symonds, the following invoices were authorised for payment:-

Mr R Sinclair – refund official telephone & B/B 14/10-13/11/16 (101461)	£ 22.46
CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd – VPF maintenance October 2016 (101460)	£221.80
LM Parochial Church Council - 2 nd 50% annual PC grant maintenance graveyard (101458)	£775.00
Gabrielle Evans-Lombe – Rent VPF 12/10/15-11/11/16 (101462)	£ 0.05
The Play Inspection Company Ltd. – Annual Play Equipment Inspection 2016 (101463)	£ 75.00
Abate Limited – Pest (moles) control 17/10/16-17/1/16 (101459)	£ 59.40
South Norfolk Council – 2016/2017 DWB Emptying charges (101464)	£312.19
Mr R Sinclair – refund (50%) Printer cartridges November 2016 (£101465)	£ 3.99

RECEIPTS

Three receipts were reported namely (a) HAFC U14s match 18/9/16 for £16.50, (b) SNC C.I.L. payment 6 months to 28.10.16. (2016/1063, The Gardens, Mill Road) for £407.10 and HAFC U14s matches 2/10 and 23/10/16 for £33.00.

MONITORING REPORT

Nothing was reported under this item.

INTERNAL VERIFICATION

The Clerk said that he anticipated asking Tony Hedges to undertake the IV for the period 1/7-30/9/16 in the near future.

HETHERSETT & MELTONS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Nothing further was reported under this item, following the resignation of Harold Kerslake.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

Regarding the continuing shortage of two parish councillors on the Parish Council it was confirmed that the vacancies could be filled by co-option.

In addition the Chair said that – with regard to the Clerk’s impending resignation – he had recently spoken to Ian Weetman (Clerk of Hethersett Parish Council) and Jackie Sutton (the Chair of Hethersett Parish Council) and ascertained that Ian Weetman would be prepared to also undertake the significant duties of Clerk of Little Melton Parish Council (on a temporary basis) w.e.f. 1 January 2017.

In consequence the Chair asked Richard Sinclair if that was acceptable for him to resign from his duties of Clerk on 31.12.16. The Clerk said that this date for him to cease his duties was acceptable.

John Heaser also said Ian Weetman had indicated that he may not attend the Little Melton Parish Council meetings and therefore John Heaser was thinking about the idea that the PCMs could (for 2017 and beyond) be conducted on an I.T. Conference basis.

Continuing the Chair said that Ian Weetman would carry out the duties that were essential but that volunteers were sought to undertake the more basic duties of the Clerk.

In this respect John Symonds said he was prepared to display the public notices on the Parish Council noticeboards.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ETC.

The (revised) date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 6 December 2016 beginning at 7.30 pm in Little Melton Primary School.

There being no further business the meeting closed at approximately 9.15 pm.

Chair.....

Date.....